



ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Responding to an event in the environment of a computing device by pausing the display of a television program. After detecting an event that indicates that the viewing experience of a viewer is likely to have been interrupted, a computing device automatically pauses the output of the television program and begins recording a television signal on which the television program is encoded. When the interruption is completed, the recorded television signal is resumed in a time-shifted manner such that the viewer can continue viewing without missing the portion of the television program that would have otherwise been displayed during the interruption. In this manner, the television program can be automatically paused in response to events that may interrupt the viewing experience, such as an incoming telephone call, the receipt of an electronic message, or other events occurring in the home or in the environment of the computing device.

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